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Comment on Splittist's "Economic Cooperation Plan"

Pyongyang, DPRK

On June 23, traitor Pak Jung Hi made public what he called a "special statement."

In this statement he brought forward the so-called "plan of north-south economic cooperation" in which the north and the south are to conduct "exchange", "technical cooperation" and "capital cooperation" at a private level and form a "consultative body" for this purpose.

In a bid to mislead public opinion at home and abroad as if this "economic cooperation plan" were their brainchild and a "realistic" one, the south Korean authorities have now called into service all mass communication media on their payroll and are confusing radio waves and wasting types.

But the north-south economic cooperation plan is not an invention of Pak Jung Hi on any account, nor a matter that has been raised only now for the first time.

As regards north-south economic collaboration and exchange, it was proposed in all respects by us already 20 or more years ago and later this issue was again raised in detail on the positive initiative of our side in the early stage of the north-south dialogue.

At his interview with Li Hu Rak, Chang Gi Yong, Choe Gyu Ha and other members of the Seoul side to the North-South Coordination Commission who came to Pyongyang, on November 3, 1972, Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great revolutionary leader, explained his idea to realize many-sided collaboration between the north and the south in all spheres, such as politics, military affairs, diplomacy, economy and culture, since the south Korean side had pledged already in May that year to make the three principles of national reunification the basis for reunification, not serving as cat's-paws of the United States and Japan.

That day, attaching special importance to north-south economic collaboration, he put forward a concrete plan for it.

First he told the south Korean side not to go to the trouble of importing iron ore from abroad as it is deposited inexhaustibly in the northern half of the Republic but to excavate as much of it as they wish with its own labour force, using our machines and equipment.

He also said that we are always ready to open for the south Korean fishermen the fishing grounds of the northern half of the Republic that teem with fish shoals in all seasons, and their living may be stabilized if they come and catch fish whenever they want to.

Then the great leader earnestly told that since we have rich experience gained in irrigation and many technical personnel and also manufacture good machines, it would be advisable to quickly undertake irrigation projects in south Korea, too, with our materials and equipment without troubling to borrow money and machines and equipment from Japan.

Acting upon the great leader's proposal for economic collaboration, our side moved time and again to the south Korean side to effect north-south economic collaboration and exchange at the first, second and third sessions of the North-South Coordination Commission.

All these proposals of ours for economic collaboration and exchange are reasonable ones aimed at rejoining the severed national bonds, dispelling misunderstanding and mistrust, and jointly developing and utilizing the abundant natural resources of the country and thus promoting the people's welfare and steadily increasing the might of the nation. They are also active save-the-nation proposals for ending dependence on foreign forces, regaining national sovereignty and hastening the country's peaceful reunification to the maximum; and they are absolutely just ones acceptable to everyone who truly wants the reunification of the country.

Our proposals for carrying into effect north-south collaboration are indeed patriotic ones prompted by our lofty desire to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification

of the country, the longing of all the fellow countrymen, at the earliest possible date according to the spirit of the North-South Joint Statement.

If our proposal for collaboration had come into effect, the relations between north and south would have been improved and undoubtedly a new phase opened in accelerating the cause of national reunification.

The south Korean authorities, however, turned down all our just proposals under the absurd pretext of "time" or "postulate".

What they brought forth at most was to develop jointly Mt. Kumgang-san for tourist industry.

In face of our patriotic, fair logic and assertion for reunification, their treacherous answer for division was so poor.

The south Korean side's insistence on mere development of Mt. Kumgang-san against our principled proposal was, in essence, an anti-national act aimed at opposing the north-south collaboration to bring about the coordinated development of the country and the prosperity of the nation to *kisaeng* tourism or amusement business.

This was a mockery and betrayal of the entire nation desirous of the north-south collaboration and reunification.

This was how matters stood.

Today, six years since then, the south Korean authorities abuse others' things for their own and claim as if raising a new problem; their behavior cannot be interpreted otherwise than a ridiculous political burlesque.

Their recent allegation for "economic cooperation" does not befit at all their destitution in which they stagger, saddled with a fabulous sum of foreign debts exceeding 10,000 million dollars as a result of imploring for dollar, yen and mark.

What has made the south Korean authorities, who have been dead set against our proposal for economic collaboration, bring forth a "plan of north-south economic cooperation" now all of a sudden?

Is their proposal motivated by a purpose for reunification or by an intention to create "two Koreas"?

If they made such an offer for reunification, we construe it as meaning that they have accepted our economic collaboration proposal though belated and consider it a good thing.

But, in this regard, you need to remind yourselves of a saying: "Never touch the wild rose carelessly though it looks beautiful. You must remember it has sharp thorns."

This offer made by the south Korean authorities is detestable. It is not for reunification but has behind it a sinister splittist design to create "two Koreas."

Clear proof of this is furnished by the acts of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique these days.

If north-south economic cooperation is to be a true cooperation, it must be totally for the country's reunification and serve it.

But, the south Korean authorities presuppose division and seek "economic cooperation" to create "two Koreas."

They have set it as their supreme goal to make "two Koreas" according to their "two nations and two states theory" and subordinate everything to it.

Internally the south Korean puppets established the "Yusin" system to freeze the division and externally they seek the "simultaneous UN membership of the north and the south" and "separate entry into the UN" and try to drive the train of "two Koreas" on the rail of "cross recognition."

It is only too clear that the south Korean authorities seeking to create "two Koreas" cannot think of any "cooperation" for one Korea.

If they really want to promote north-south economic cooperation in our country, they must desist from the flunkeyist-treacherous act of depending on the foreign forces or bartering away the country and national interests to them.

But they are allied with the outside forces

against the nation.

The Pak Jung Hi clique, born under the aegis of the US forces and keeping themselves under their wings, are begging for the permanent presence and steady reinforcement of the US troops at a time when the whole nation demands their immediate and total withdrawal.

As a result of aggression and treachery, Carter's troop pullout pledge still remains an empty talk even today, one year and a half after he made such a statement, and he is retreating further and further from his pledge. As of the end of March, the numerical strength of the US troops in south Korea increased by 881, compared with the close of last year.

The south Korean rulers are clinging more and more tightly to the sleeves of their Japanese masters, chanting: "South Korea and Japan are in the same boat" and "South Korea's safety is that of Japan."

Due to the arbitrary aggressive manoeuvres and traitorous guide the "south Korea-Japan relations" have now entered the military stage from the economic stage and big war monopolies of Japan and the descendants of the Imperial Army are vyingly swarming into south Korea.

As a result of the pro-US and pro-Japanese traitorous acts of the Pak Jung Hi clique, south Korea has been completely "Americanized" and "Japanized" and is rolling deeper into the political, economic and military spheres of the US and Japanese aggressors.

The quislings who have thrown one half of the country into the mouths of the tigers—US and Japan—are seeking to create "two Koreas", selling off both resources and compatriots. No matter how much they vociferate about "economic cooperation", the world public will never believe that it is for the nation's well-being and the country's reunification.

The south Korean rulers, who depend entirely on US and Japanese monopoly capitalists for capital, technology and raw materials, talk about something like "cooperation." This arouses public suspicion that they attempt to hurl even our economy into the US and Japanese economic sphere.

If they want economic cooperation between our people really for reunification, they must stop the fascist suppression of the patriotic forces desirous of reunification, abandon their anti-communist policy against us and take the position of promoting great national unity.

But the south Korean authorities are repressing the patriotic forces thirsting for democracy and reunification on the one hand and on the other they are ceaselessly kicking up the anti-communist "crush-the-north" row against the northern half.

The traitor Pak Jung Hi enacted the worst fascist laws in the world and set up the murderous repressive machinery with which his clique brand even those who speak only a few words about reunification as those dividing "public opinion" and punish them.

Even a mere statement or expression of earnest desire for reunification is charged as "false rumour" and is the cause of capital punishment under the "Yusin" system, the worst hell in history.

In particular, the south Korean puppets, who make anti-communism their mode of existence, are calling without a scruple for overthrowing us, regarding the compatriots in the northern half with the same blood ties of 5,000 years as the enemy, raving: "We cannot live together with Communists in the north though they are of the same blood."

The madness of the Pak Jung Hi clique against us has gone over to "prevailing over communism" from "anti-communism", then to "wiping out communism" from "prevailing over communism" and now to "crush the north" from "wiping out communism."

They punish all south Koreans who call for reunification and look up at the north, labelling them as "collaborators with communism", and anwser us who strive for the

country's reunification with "crush the north." We would like to ask them for what they want "economic cooperation" and who conducts "cooperation" with whom.

Now even exchange conducted among nations is based on the principle of mutual benefit and cooperation. Nevertheless, they advocate "cooperation" between our nation, blustering that they will wipe out kith and kin, while taking a hostile attitude towards them. There is no one who will not jeer at such a ludicrous behaviour.

After all, the "economic cooperation" mouthed by the south Korean puppets cannot be construed otherwise than for "CIA" gangsters in the guise of civilians to engage in espionage and try to use it for their policy of confrontation and division, going in and out, with abacus under their arms.

If in our country "economic cooperation" is to be realized truly in the interests of the people, misunderstanding and distrust between north and south should be dispelled, an atmosphere of trust created, and the tension between them eased.

Where, then, are the south Korean authorities heading for at present? They are talking about "economic cooperation" in words, but in deeds they have gone off into reckless war hysterics to invade the north.

With an eye to "recovering lost territory" by invading the northern half with the backing of the US and Japanese forces of aggression, the south Korean war maniacs have drastically increased their war budget every year to accelerate the modernization of the "ROK Army" equipment and channelled all their human and material resources into augmenting war capabilities.

The south Korean authorities who have already offered south Korea as a US military and nuclear base, are planning to ship in 8,000 million dollars' worth of armaments from the United States within 4 to 5 years allegedly to "offset" the withdrawal of US forces; they are staging large-scale war exercises against the northern half almost every day.

The so-called "economic cooperation," which the south Korean puppets advocate while sharpening their swords and shooting guns against us in a war move incompatible with peaceful reunification, can only serve their policy of confrontation and can never promote the cause of national reunification. Is it necessary to give a lengthy explanation?

All the facts clearly show that the "economic cooperation" advertised by the south Korean rulers is a phony. It is not for reunification but a product of the divisive policy aimed to create "two Koreas".

The latest monstrous "plan of north-south economic cooperation" made by the south Korean puppets is a new trick which they, condemned by the world people for their June 23 statement of splittism, hatched with a criminal aim to hide the real nature of their divisive moves, deceive public opinion at home and abroad and save themselves from political crisis.

But they have grossly miscalculated.

If they wanted to gain even a little public sympathy, it would have been better for them to have frankly asked help from us who have a powerful independent national economy and humbly requested for cooperation. But they have neither courage nor frankness to do so.

To tell the truth, we have nothing special to bring from south Korea.

If any, it is only some pork as Chang Gi Yong, former Vice-Chairman of the Seoul side to the North-South Coordination Commission, mentioned when he was in Pyongyang and we are not interested in anything else in south Korea.

If all the proposals including that for economic collaboration in our country are really to serve to promote reunification they should be firmly based on the three principles of national reunification which were officially recognized as the reunification charter for all the nation.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said:

"Korea must be reunified on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, as we already clarified in the July 4 North-South Joint Statement. No matter how the situation may change in the future the question of Korean reunification cannot be solved apart from these basic principles."

The three principles of national reunification are a milestone of reunification reflecting the desire and aspiration of the nation; they represent a great programme of reunification that should be observed by both sides to attain the goal.

If the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique have proposed the current "plan of economic cooperation" with us not for dividing the country but for reunifying the country on the three principles of national reunification, there are questions of principle towards which they must make clear their attitude before the whole nation.

The Pak Jung Hi clique must reaffirm the three principles of national reunification set forth by us and, on this basis, scrap the splittist June 23 statement designed to create "two Koreas", oust the US armed forces, give up their anti-communist fascist policy, set free the patriots and democrats, and refrain from their clamour about invading the north to attack us.

If the south Korean authorities pledge before the whole nation to carry out such things as mentioned above and put their pledge into practice, we are ready to discuss with them all questions arising between north and south including that of economic cooperation.

If they make such a radical change in their policy, all the nation will hail it and may pin "decorations" on their chests.

But obviously in our eyes the south Korean rulers are not bold enough to make such a decision.

Just as the crow can only caw, so the Pak Jung Hi cabal can only chant the psalm of splittism.

Reunification and division cannot go side by side; patriots and traitors cannot live together.

For the country's reunification the Pak Jung Hi band who seek fascism and permanent division must step down from "power," and patriots who stand for democracy and peaceful reunification must come to power.

If a new patriotic, democratic government is set up in south Korea, we will join hand with it and completely solve all the questions related to the reunification of the country including the problem of effecting many-sided collaboration and exchange between the north and the south as indicated by the five-point policy for national reunification.

Rough and thorny is the path to national reunification, but the united efforts of the fifty million people will certainly bring the dawn of reunification.

(From *Rodong Sinmun*)